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AGRICULTURE SECRETARY VILSACK ANNOUNCES \$123 MILLION FOR RURAL WATER PROJECTS IN 24 STATES

Recovery Act Funds Will Help Improve Infrastructure Across Rural America

WASHINGTON, June 17, 2009 — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced the selection of more than \$123 million in water and environmental projects that are being funded immediately through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The projects will help provide safe drinking water and improved wastewater treatment systems for rural towns and communities in 24 states.

"The water and wastewater projects announced today support the Obama administration's goal of rebuilding and revitalizing our country's rural infrastructure and putting people to work by doing the work that Americans want done." Vilsack said. "These Recovery Act investments will provide reliable drinking water and sanitary waste disposal while creating and saving jobs in rural America."

The 24 states where projects are located include: Florida, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and West Virginia.

In Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the West Iron County Sewer Authority received a \$300,000 loan and \$700,000 grant to replace deteriorated concrete around the treatment plant and concrete beams that support the tank covers. Other upgrades include switching from the existing gaseous chloride system with a safer liquid sodium hypochlorite system and replacing the existing automatic transfer switches to the lift station and treatment plant.

USDA Rural Development's Water and Environmental Program provides loans and grants to ensure that the necessary investments are made in water and wastewater infrastructure to deliver safe drinking water and protect the environment in rural areas. More information about USDA Rural Development can be found at www.rurdev.usda.gov. Funding of individual recipients is contingent upon their meeting the terms of the loan or grant agreement.

Project List for ARRA Water and Wastewater Funding

Fla. - Immokalee Water & Sewer District (Sewer): \$8,088,000

Fla. - Wewahitchka Stone Mill Creek Water (Water): \$5,445,200

Total Projects Florida (2): \$13,533,200

Iowa - City of Elkader (Sewer): \$1,165,000

Total Projects Iowa (1): \$1,165,000

Idaho - City of Fairfield (Sewer): \$1,220,000

Total Projects Idaho (1): \$1,220,000

Ill. - Eaton Water District (Water): \$1,375,000

Total Projects Illinois (1): \$1,375,000

Ky. - Edmonson County Water District (Water): \$819,500

Ky. - Pendleton County Water District (Water): \$275,000

Total Projects Kentucky (2): \$1,094,500

La. - Town of Jonesville (Water): \$205,000

La. - Village of Montpelier (Water): \$850,000

Total Projects Louisiana (2): \$1,055,000

Maine - Lincoln Sanitary District (Sewer): \$2,650,000

Total Projects Maine (1): \$2,650,000

Mich. - West Iron County Sewer Authority (Sewer) \$1,000,000

Total Projects Michigan (1): \$1,000,000

Mo. - City of Clarence (Sewer): \$2,763,000

Mo. - Jackson County PWSD #17 (Water): \$417,000

Mo. - Linn-Livingston PWSD #3 (Water): \$3,369,030

Total Projects Missouri (3): \$6,549,030

Miss. - Clarkdale Water Association, Inc (Water): \$4,200,000

Miss. - Trim Cane Water Association, Inc. (Water): \$689,000

Total Projects Mississippi (2): \$4,889,000

N.D. - City of Oakes (Combined): \$4,970,000

Total Projects North Dakota (1): \$4,970,000

N.H. - North Conway Water Precinct (Sewer): \$8,190,000

Total Projects New Hampshire (1): \$8,190,000

N.Y. - Town of Boston Water District 2 (Water): \$353,700

N.Y. - Town of Boston Water District 3 (Water): \$3,006,000

N.Y. - Village of Sodus Point (Water): \$2,520,000

N.Y. - Town of West Sparta (Water): \$795,000

Total Projects New York (4): \$6,674,700

Ohio - Jefferson County (Sewer): \$9,429,000

Ohio - Northwestern Water & Sewer Dist. (Sewer): \$4,420,000

Total Projects Ohio (2): \$13,849,000

Okla. - Flint Ridge Rural Water District (Water): \$3,860,000

Total Projects Oklahoma (1): \$3,860,000

Ore. - Tri City Water & Sanitary Authority (Sewer): \$1,595,000

Ore. - Netarts-Oceanside Sanitary District (NOSD) (Sewer): \$20,995,000

Total Projects Oregon (2): \$22,590,000

S.C. - Town of Williamston (Sewer) \$4,866,600

S.C. - Williamsburg County (Water): \$4,147,600

Total Projects South Carolina (2): \$9,014,200

S.D. - Aurora-Brule Rural Water System, Inc.(Water): \$3,680,000

Total Projects South Dakota (1): \$3,680,000

Tenn. - City of Johnson City (Water): \$869,000

Total Projects Tennessee (1): \$869,000

Texas - Baffin Bay Water Supply Corporation (Water): \$1,627,000

Texas - Leigh WSC (Water): \$2,515,000

Total Projects Texas (2): \$4,142,000

Va. - Carroll County Public Service Authority (Water): \$1,062,000

Total Projects Virginia (1): \$1,062,000

Wash. – Battleground (Sewer): \$7,000,000 Total Projects Washington (1): \$7,000,000

Total Projects Washington (1): \$7,000,000

Wis.- Town of Port Wing (Sewer): \$1,142,000

Total Projects Wisconsin (1): \$1,142,000

W.Va. - McDowell County Public Service District (Water): \$1,724,000

W.Va. - Town of Newburg (Water): \$185,000

Total Projects West Virginia (2): \$1,909,000

President Obama signed The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 into law on Feb. 17, 2009. It is designed to jumpstart the nation's economy, create or save millions of jobs and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century. The Act includes measures to modernize our nation's infrastructure, enhance energy independence, expand educational opportunities, preserve and improve affordable health care, provide tax relief, and protect those in greatest need.

More information about USDA's Recovery Act efforts is available at www.usda.gov/recovery. More information about the Federal government's efforts on the Recovery Act is available at www.recovery.gov.